

**MULTI-NODE USER INTERFACE COMPONENT AND METHOD  
THEREOF FOR USE IN PERFORMING A COMMON  
OPERATION ON LINKED RECORDS**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5       A user interface component and method of using the same graphically display  
linked records with node display elements representing individual records, and optional  
link display elements representing the links therebetween. The user interface  
component may be automatically and dynamically generated during navigation between  
linked records, such that whenever a new link is taken from a record represented by a  
10   node display element, a new node display element is generated. In addition, the user  
interface component may further be configured to graphically represent the particular  
location of a particular link within a record, as well as a scroll display element  
associated with selected node display elements such that specific data or locations  
within the records associated therewith may be accessed. Moreover, the user interface  
15   component may also be configured to incorporate a retrieve progress display element  
that indicates a current status of a retrieve operation for a record. Individual node  
display elements within a user interface component may also separately indicate status  
information for their associated records, e.g., displaying a cache status and/or a  
matching status that indicates whether associated records match a predetermined search  
20   criteria, among others. The user interface component may also be utilized to perform  
common operations such as printing, caching and loading, among others, on selected  
records in response to user selection of the nodes associated with the selected records.